

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
  
WAYNE N. MORRIS,  
  
Defendant.

CASE NO. CR99-0174-JCC  
  
ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on the Government's motion to seal an exhibit attached to its response to Defendant's motion for compassionate release (Dkt. No. 238). The Court starts from the position that "[t]here is a strong presumption of public access to [its] files." W.D. Wash. Local Civ. R. 5(g)(3); *see Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns, Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). To overcome that presumption, the Government must show that there are "compelling reasons" to seal Exhibit A. *See Ctr. for Auto Safety v. Chrysler Grp., LLC*, 809 F.3d 1092, 1101 (9th Cir. 2016) (holding that the "compelling reasons" standard applies to any motion that "is more than tangentially related to the merits of a case"). The Court finds compelling reasons to seal Exhibit A, which contains sensitive and confidential information that, if made public, could cause irreparable harm to Defendant Wayne N. Morris. Accordingly, the Court GRANTS the Government's motion to seal (Dkt. No. 238) and DIRECTS the Clerk to maintain Docket Number 239 under seal until further order of the Court.

1 DATED this 26th day of August 2020.

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5 John C. Coughenour  
6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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